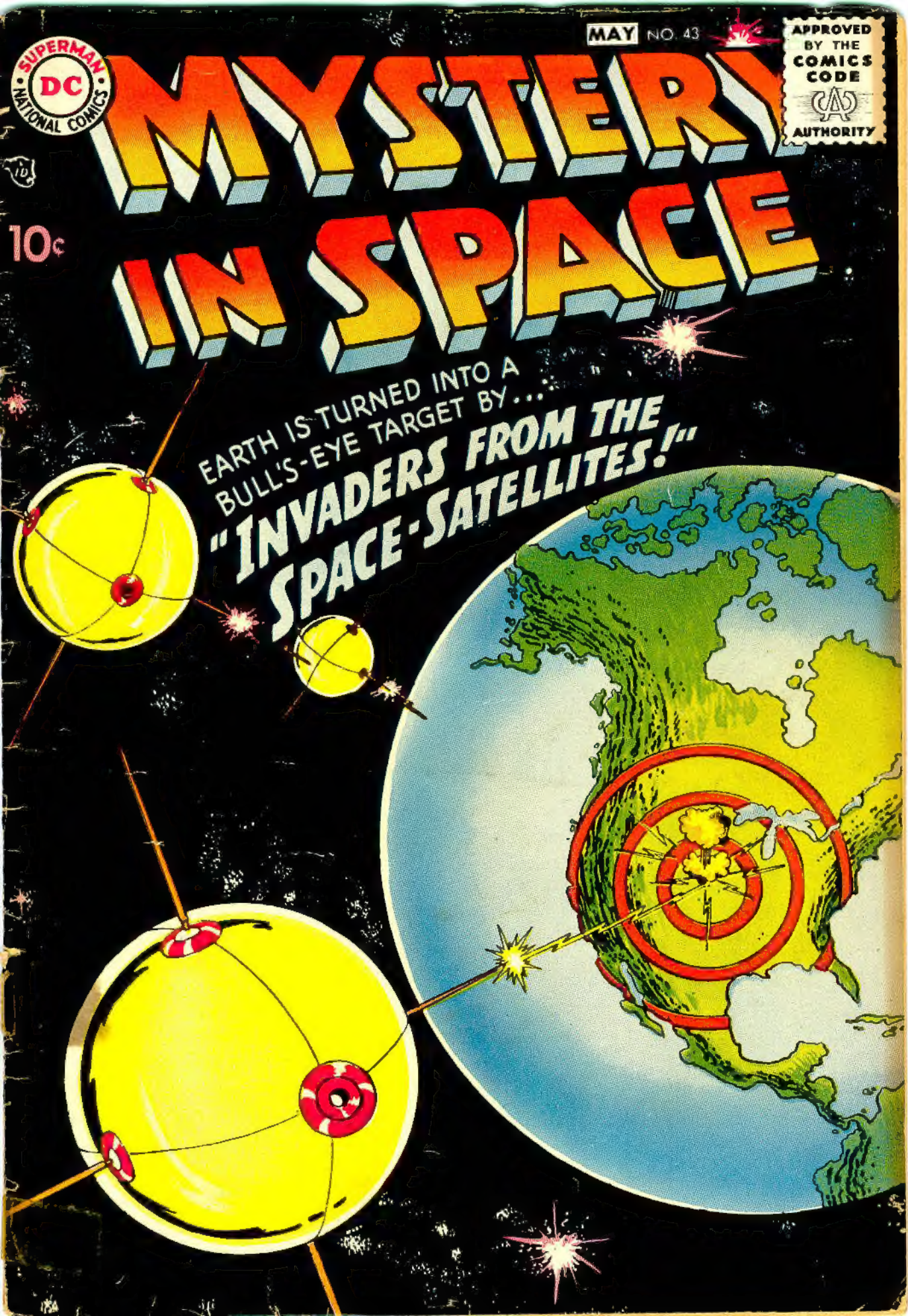
MAY NO. 43
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SUPERMAN DC NATIONAL COMICS
10¢
MYSTERY IN SPACE
EARTH IS TURNED INTO A BULL'S-EYE TARGET BY...
"INVADERS FROM THE SPACE-SATELLITES!"

DRAW LINCOLN

you may win a $430.00 scholarship in commercial art

Draw Lincoln's head, with pencil, 6 inches high. As winner of contest you get a complete art course—free training for a money-making career in advertising art, illustrating or cartooning. You are taught, individually, by professional artists on the staff of world's largest home study art school. Among all commercial artists today, one out of every ten, it's estimated, has studied with Art Instruction, Inc. For over forty years this school has been teaching art to talented beginners. Try for a $375.00 art course! Winner also gets drawing supplies and valuable art textbooks. Entries for March 1958 contest must be received by March 31. None returned. Amateurs only. Our students not eligible. Winner notified. Mail your drawing today.

Use **1** coupon—then pass this page on to a friend.

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500 South 4th Street, Minneapolis 15, Minnesota

Please enter my attached drawing in your contest.
(PLEASE PRINT)

Name_____ AGE____
Address_____ County_____
City_____ Zone____ State____
Occupation_____ Phone____

2. ART INSTRUCTION, INC., STUDIO 2508
500 South 4th Street, Minneapolis 15, Minnesota

Please enter my attached drawing in your contest.
(PLEASE PRINT)

Name_____ AGE____
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Occupation_____ Phone____

1. ART INSTRUCTION, INC., STUDIO 2508
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Please enter my attached drawing in your contest.
(PLEASE PRINT)

Name_____ AGE____
Address_____ County_____
City_____ Zone____ State____
Occupation_____ Phone____

INVADERS FROM THE SPACE-SATELLITES!

IF ONLY THE ATOM BOMB HAD NEVER BEEN INVENTED, THE PEOPLE OF THE 22ND CENTURY CONJECTURED, HOW MUCH BETTER OFF OUR DEVASTATED WORLD WOULD HAVE BEEN! STARTING WITH SUCH A PREMISE, HOW WOULD THE COURSE OF HISTORY--BETWEEN THE YEARS 1945 AND 2150--BE AFFECTED?

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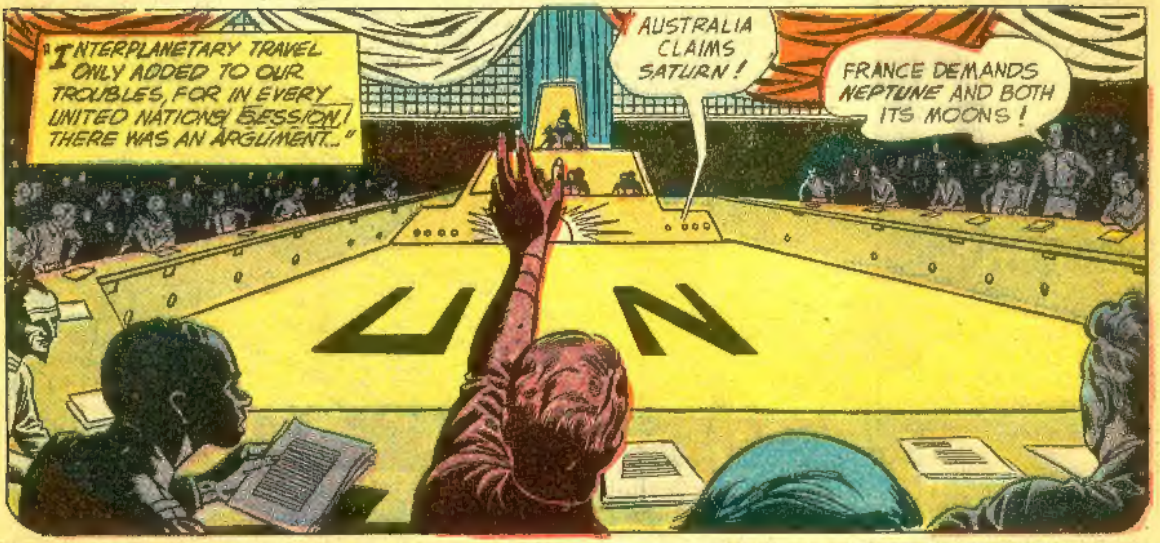
ONLY DESOLATE FIELDS AND DECAYED TREES FRAME A LONELY, HEMISPHERE-COVERED BUILDING ON EARTH OF THE YEAR 2150...
IS THE TIME-SCANNER READY?
YES, COMMANDER! ITS CONTROLS ARE SET TO GO BACK 250 YEARS!
INSIDE THE CITY-FORT, COMMANDER JOHN YARDLEY SITS BEFORE A WALL OF COMPLICATED MACHINERY...
ATOMIC WAR HAS TURNED EARTH INTO A BARREN PLANET! IF WE CAN "TURN BACK TIME" AND ERADICATE ALL KNOWLEDGE OF THE ATOM BOMB, WE COULD CHANGE THE PAST--AND OUR PRESENT EARTH WILL ONCE AGAIN BE A THRIVING PLANET!
OPERATION NULLO HAS BEGUN! THE COURSE OF HISTORY OF EARTH'S LAST 250 YEARS IS ABOUT TO CHANGE!...
"IT WAS IN THE 1900's THAT MAN MADE THE GREAT SCIENTIFIC STRIDES ENABLING HIM TO EXPLODE THE FIRST WAR-TIME ATOM BOMB IN 1945..."
"AFTER THAT THE WORLD LIVED IN PERPETUAL DREAD OF ATOMIC WAR! EVEN AFTER SPACE WAS CONQUERED AND MAN REACHED THE MOON, THE DANGER EXISTED..."
AN ATOMIC CANNON AIMED FROM HERE COULD DESTROY ANY CITY ON EARTH!

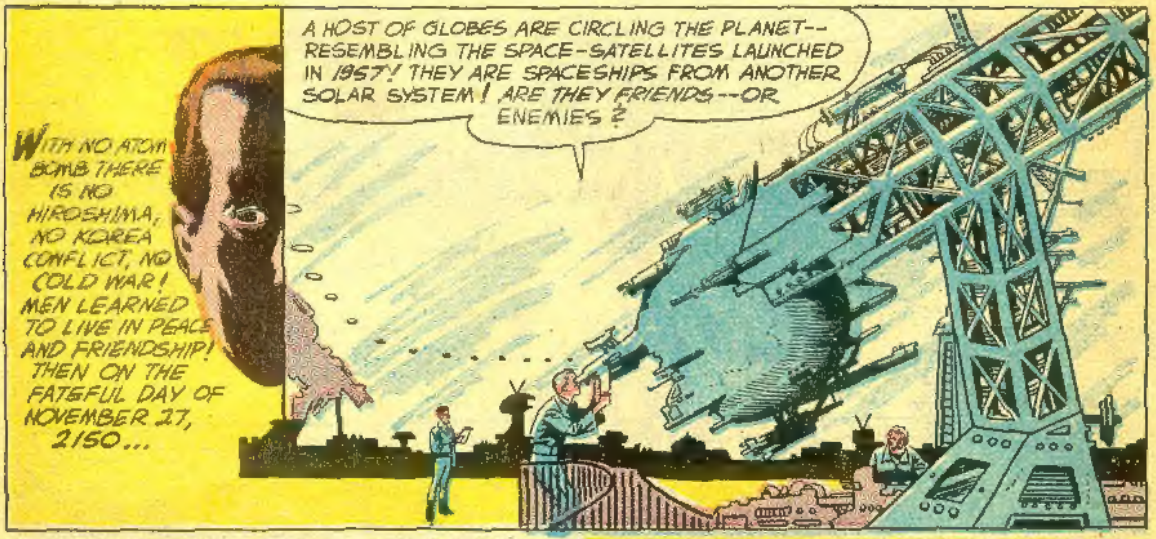

"INTERPLANETARY TRAVEL ONLY ADDED TO OUR TROUBLES, FOR IN EVERY UNITED NATIONS SESSION! THERE WAS AN ARGUMENT..."
AUSTRALIA CLAIMS SATURN!
FRANCE DEMANDS NEPTUNE AND BOTH ITS MOONS!
U N

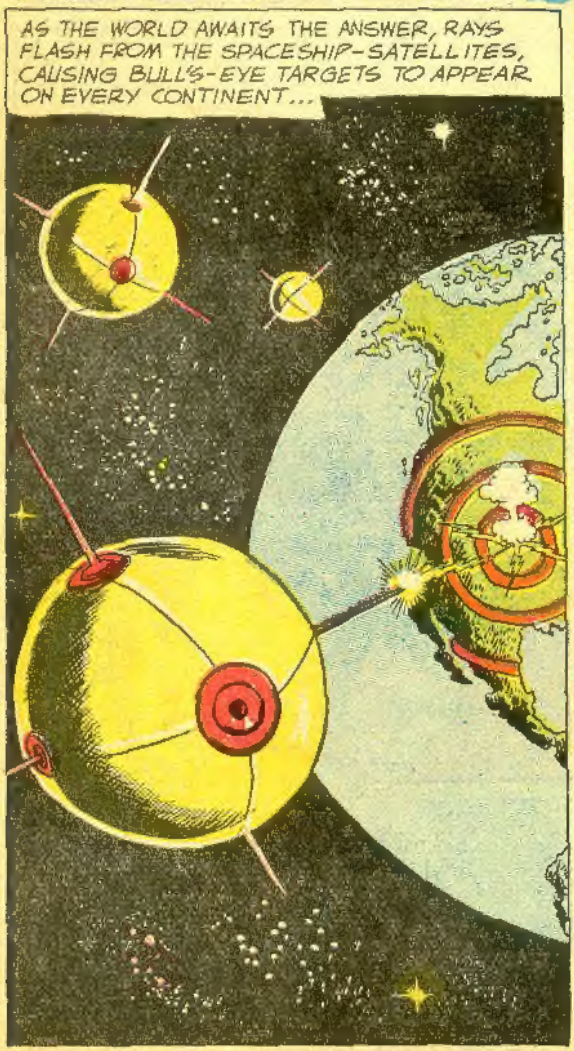
"BECAUSE IT WAS LONG DELAYED, THE ATOMIC WAR WHEN IT CAME BURST FORTH WITH TERRIBLE FURY! ENTIRE CITIES DISAPPEARED UNDER THE IMPACT OF THE NUCLEAR BOMBS!"

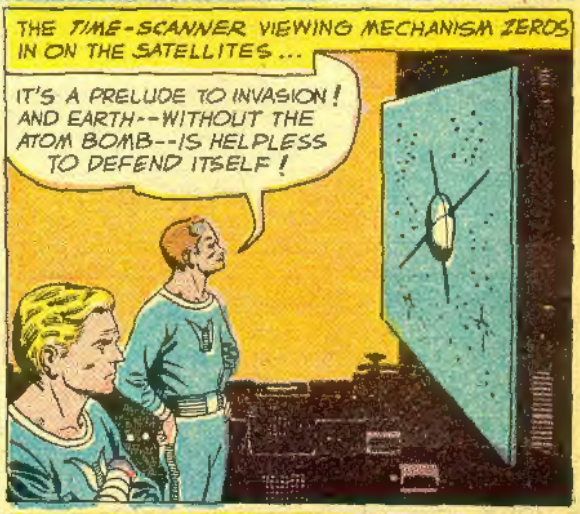
"WITHIN TWO YEARS, EARTH HAD BECOME A DEVASTATED WORLD, WITH LESS THAN A MILLION HUMAN SURVIVORS SCATTERED OVER ITS SURFACE IN THE CITY-FORTS..."
NOBODY DARES WALK ANYWHERE BUT IN THESE ENCLOSED CITY-FORTS BECAUSE OF THE RADIO-ACTIVE ATMOSPHERE OUTSIDE!

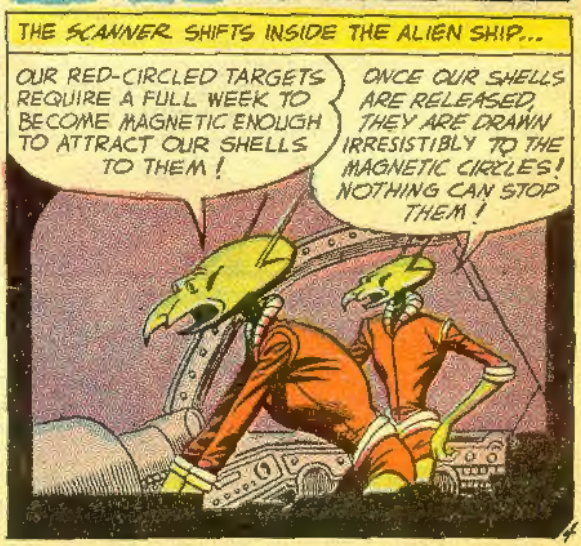
IF ONLY THE ATOM BOMB HAD NEVER BEEN INVENTED, PEOPLE CONJECTURED, HOW MUCH BETTER OFF MANKIND WOULD HAVE BEEN! NOW WE HAVE SET THE CONTROLS IN MOTION TO EFFECT SUCH A CHANGE IN HISTORY...

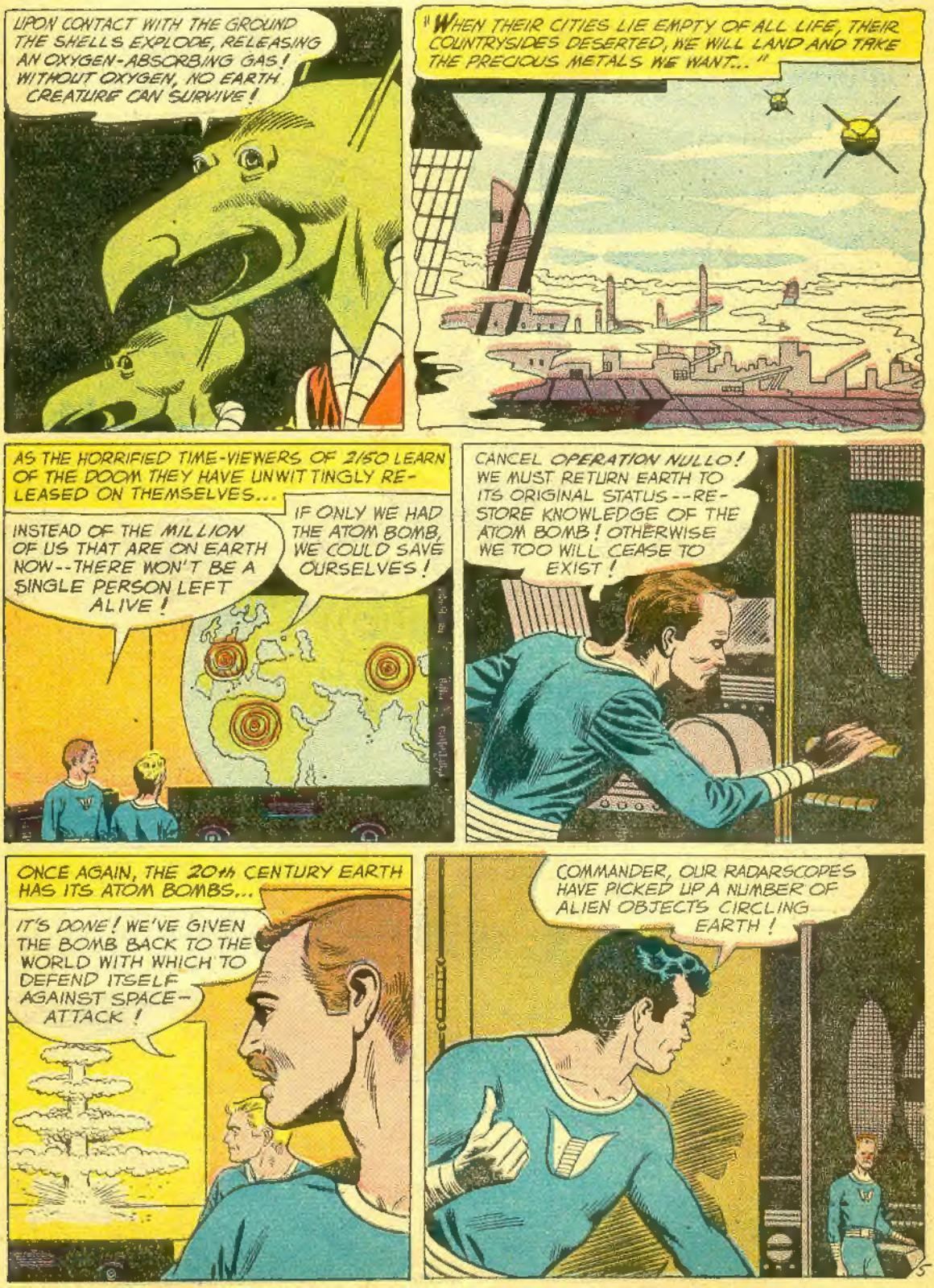
OUR TIME-SCANNER IS PROBING BACK TO THE 1900's AND ELIMINATING ALL MENTAL PROCESSES THAT LEAD TO THE ATOM BOMB'S INVENTION! WITHOUT THE ATOM BOMB, MORE EARTH-PEOPLE WOULD BE ALIVE TODAY!

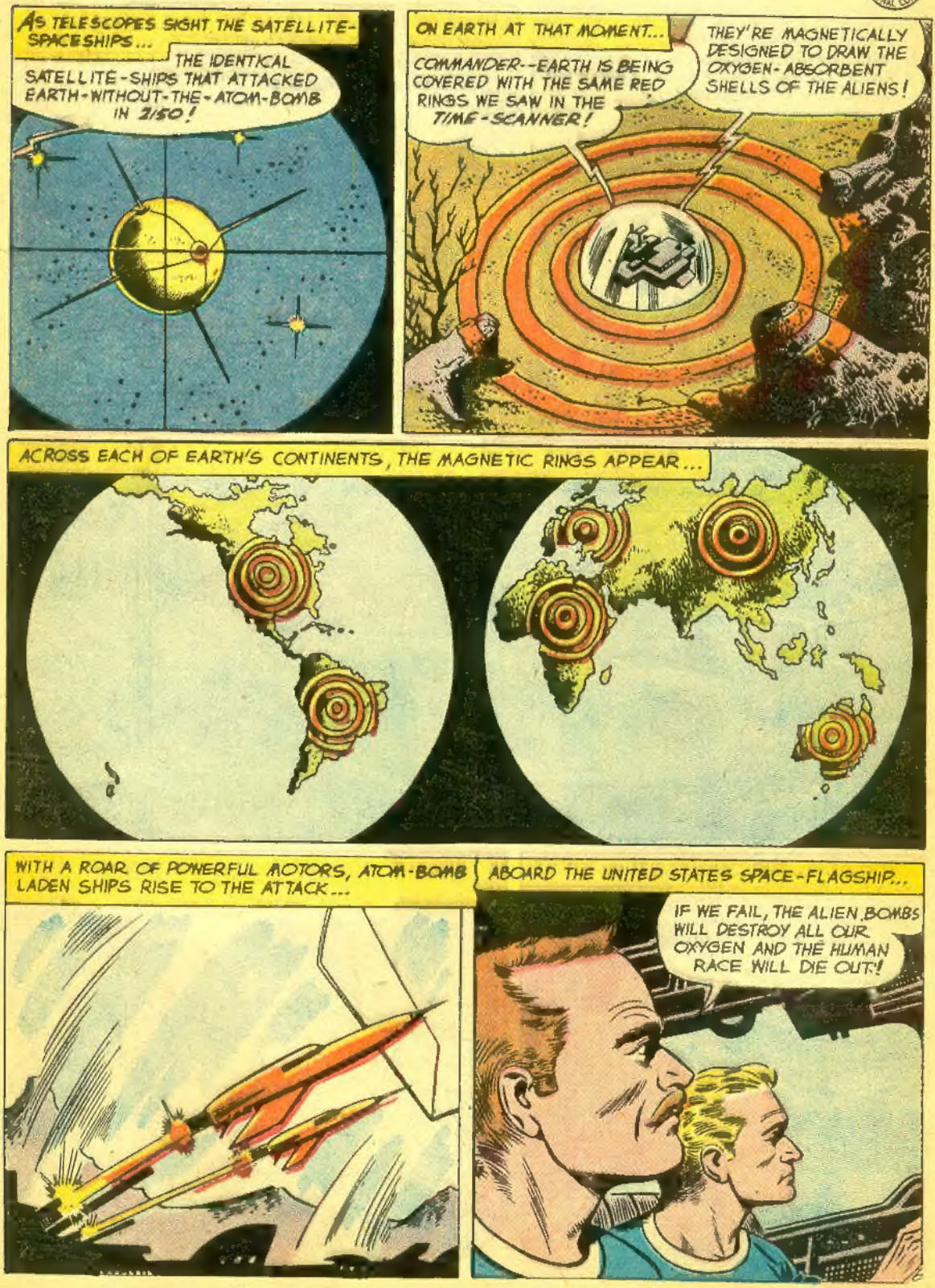

WITH NO ATOM BOMB THERE IS NO HIROSHIMA, NO KOREA CONFLICT, NO COLD WAR! MEN LEARNED TO LIVE IN PEACE AND FRIENDSHIP! THEN ON THE FATEFUL DAY OF NOVEMBER 27, 2150...
A HOST OF GLOBES ARE CIRCLING THE PLANET--RESEMBLING THE SPACE-SATELLITES LAUNCHED IN 1957! THEY ARE SPACESHIPS FROM ANOTHER SOLAR SYSTEM! ARE THEY FRIENDS--OR ENEMIES?


AS THE WORLD AWAITS THE ANSWER, RAYS FLASH FROM THE SPACESHIP-SATELLITES, CAUSING BULL'S-EYE TARGETS TO APPEAR ON EVERY CONTINENT...


THE TIME-SCANNER VIEWING MECHANISM ZEROS IN ON THE SATELLITES...
IT'S A PRELUDE TO INVASION! AND EARTH--WITHOUT THE ATOM BOMB--IS HELPLESS TO DEFEND ITSELF!


THE SCANNER SHIFTS INSIDE THE ALIEN SHIP...
OUR RED-CIRCLED TARGETS REQUIRE A FULL WEEK TO BECOME MAGNETIC ENOUGH TO ATTRACT OUR SHELLS TO THEM!
ONCE OUR SHELLS ARE RELEASED, THEY ARE DRAWN IRRESISTIBLY TO THE MAGNETIC CIRCLES! NOTHING CAN STOP THEM!


UPON CONTACT WITH THE GROUND THE SHELLS EXPLODE, RELEASING AN OXYGEN-ABSORBING GAS! WITHOUT OXYGEN, NO EARTH CREATURE CAN SURVIVE!
"WHEN THEIR CITIES LIE EMPTY OF ALL LIFE, THEIR COUNTRYSIDES DESERTED, WE WILL LAND AND TAKE THE PRECIOUS METALS WE WANT..."
AS THE HORRIFIED TIME-VIEWERS OF 2150 LEARN OF THE DOOM THEY HAVE UNWITTINGLY RELEASED ON THEMSELVES...
INSTEAD OF THE MILLION OF US THAT ARE ON EARTH NOW--THERE WON'T BE A SINGLE PERSON LEFT ALIVE!
IF ONLY WE HAD THE ATOM BOMB, WE COULD SAVE OURSELVES!
CANCEL OPERATION NULLO! WE MUST RETURN EARTH TO ITS ORIGINAL STATUS--RESTORE KNOWLEDGE OF THE ATOM BOMB! OTHERWISE WE TOO WILL CEASE TO EXIST!
ONCE AGAIN, THE 20th CENTURY EARTH HAS ITS ATOM BOMBS...
IT'S DONE! WE'VE GIVEN THE BOMB BACK TO THE WORLD WITH WHICH TO DEFEND ITSELF AGAINST SPACE-ATTACK!
COMMANDER, OUR RADARSCOPES HAVE PICKED UP A NUMBER OF ALIEN OBJECTS CIRCLING EARTH!


AS TELESCOPES SIGHT THE SATELLITE-SPACESHIPS...
THE IDENTICAL SATELLITE-SHIPS THAT ATTACKED EARTH-WITHOUT-THE-ATOM-BOMB IN 2150!
ON EARTH AT THAT MOMENT...
COMMANDER--EARTH IS BEING COVERED WITH THE SAME RED RINGS WE SAW IN THE TIME-SCANNER!
THEY'RE MAGNETICALLY DESIGNED TO DRAW THE OXYGEN-ABSORBENT SHELLS OF THE ALIENS!
ACROSS EACH OF EARTH'S CONTINENTS, THE MAGNETIC RINGS APPEAR...
WITH A ROAR OF POWERFUL MOTORS, ATOM-BOMB LADEN SHIPS RISE TO THE ATTACK...
ABOARD THE UNITED STATES SPACE-FLAGSHIP...
IF WE FAIL, THE ALIEN BOMBS WILL DESTROY ALL OUR OXYGEN AND THE HUMAN RACE WILL DIE OUT!

FOR THE FIRST TIME IN HISTORY, EARTH SPACE—GUNS BLAST ATOMIC WARHEADS AT AN ENEMY FROM OUTER SPACE...
FIRE ONE! FIRE TWO!
OUR ATOM BOMBS AREN'T EXPLODING!
THE ALIENS HAVE DISCOVERED A WAY TO NEUTRALIZE THEM!
DISMAY GRIPS THE LAST FEW DEFENDERS OF EARTH...
WHAT NOW, COMMANDER?
FIRE PERCUSSION GUNS! MOUNT OLD-FASHIONED CANNON! WE MUST TRY EVERY WEAPON WE POSSESS!
ALL ATTEMPTS FAIL AS SHELL AFTER SHELL FAILS TO EXPLODE!...
NO EXPLOSIVE WEAPON IN ALL EARTH'S ARSENAL HAS ANY EFFECT ON OUR SHIPS!
WITHIN AN HOUR OUR MAGNETIC TARGET RINGS WILL DRAW OUR SHELLS ONTO THEIR WORLD! EARTH IS OURS!
SUDDENLY THE ALIENS HEAR THE COLD, CRISP VOICE OF COMMANDER JOHN YARDLEY...
LEAVE OUR PLANET--OUR SOLAR SYSTEM--AT ONCE, OR BE SHOT DOWN!
A DESPERATE BLUFF TO DRIVE US AWAY! IT WON'T WORK!
IN LESS THAN AN HOUR WE'LL FIRE OUR SHELLS--AND HE ASKS US TO RETREAT!
WE'VE STOPPED EVERY WEAPON EARTH HAS! WHAT CAN THEY POSSIBLY DO TO HARM US?

ON THE U.S. SPACE-FLAGSHIP..
WE'VE FAILED WITH MODERN WEAPONS! OUR ONLY RECOURSE IS TO USE AN ANCIENT ONE -- AN ARROW!
A GIANT STEEL ARROW IS FITTED WITH A JET ROCKET AND FIRED FROM THE EJECT CHAMBER...
IT PENETRATES THE SHELL OF THE SATELLITE-SHIP AND PRECIOUS BREATHING ATMOSPHERE HISSES OUT...
:GASP!:
:CHOKE!:
SSSSS!
BEFORE REPAIRS CAN BE MADE, OTHER EARTH ARROWS PERFORATE THE ALIEN VESSEL...
EARTHMEN--STOP! WE AGREE TO YOUR TERMS!
VERY WELL! RESCUE THE CREW OF THE DOOMED SHIP--AND LEAVE OUR SOLAR SYSTEM FOREVER!
AFTER THE ALIEN CREW IS RESCUED, THE ENEMY SATELLITES MOVE OFF...
THERE THEY GO, NEVER TO RETURN! EARTH HAS MET ITS FIRST THREAT FROM OUTER SPACE AND WON!
EVEN WITHOUT USING THE ATOM BOMB!
OUR EXPERIENCE HAS TAUGHT US THAT EARTH CANNOT ENDURE IF WE FIGHT AMONG OURSELVES! IF WE MUST WAGE WAR--LET US JOIN FORCES--AGAINST INVADERS FROM OTHER WORLDS!
The End

Now... IN A MAGAZINE OF THEIR OWN--

MEET THE CHALLENGERS OF THE UNKNOWN

10¢
DC
CHALLENGERS OF THE UNKNOWN
featuring "The HUMAN PETS"
OUR YOUNG CAPTOR FROM OUT OF SPACE LEFT THE TOP OFF OUR CAGE - AND HIS HOUSEHOLD PET IS GOING FOR US!

MEN OF RECKLESS COURAGE SEEKING OUT AND DEFYING THE UNKNOWN WHICH LURKS IN MYSTERIOUS PLACES... GRIMLY COILED!

ACE MORGAN
FEARLESS JET PILOT

PROF HALE
MASTER SKIN-DIVER

RED RYAN
CIRCUS DAREDEVIL

DEATH MEANS NOTHING TO THESE HEROIC ADVENTURERS, WHO HAD ESCAPED MIRACULOUSLY FROM CERTAIN DOOM AND DEDICATED THEMSELVES TO A SECOND LIFE!

THEY ARE THE MEN WHO LIVE ON BORROWED TIME--

The LEAGUE of DEATH-CHEATERS!

ROCKY DAVIS
OLYMPIC WRESTLING CHAMPION

SUPERMAN • DC • NATIONAL COMICS

ON SALE AT YOUR FAVORITE NEWSDEALER!

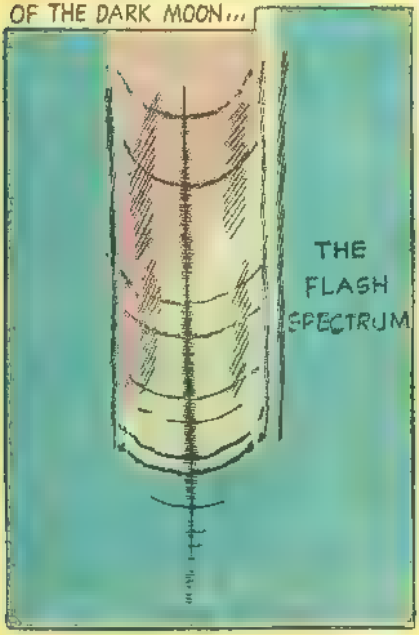
GIANTS OF THE TELESCOPE

CHARLES A. YOUNG—(1834-1908)

THE EXTENSIVE SOLAR RESEARCHES OF CHARLES A. YOUNG ENTITLE HIM TO BE CALLED "*MASTER OF THE SUN!*" ONE OF HIS FIRST SOLAR ACCOMPLISHMENTS WAS THE DISCOVERY--DURING THE 1869 ECLIPSE--OF THE GASEOUS NATURE OF THE SUN'S CORONA...

A SOLAR PROMINENCE AND THE CORONA DURING AN ECLIPSE

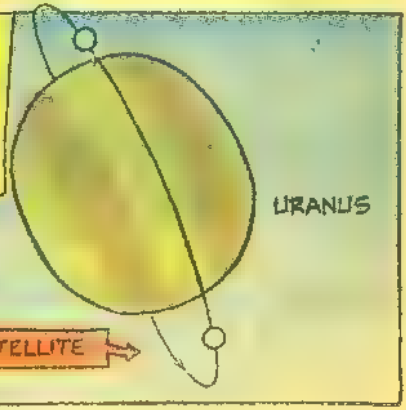
THE FOLLOWING YEAR, YOUNG BECAME THE FIRST EVER TO OBSERVE THE ***FLASH SPECTRUM***--A 2 TO 3 SECOND PHENOMENON THAT CAN BE DETECTED ONLY DURING A TOTAL SOLAR ECLIPSE. JUST AFTER THE SUN'S PHOTOSPHERE IS HIDDEN BY THE MOON, THE OUTER SOLAR ATMOSPHERE APPEARS AS A VERY NARROW, BRIGHT CRESCENT ALONG THE EDGE OF THE DARK MOON...



NAMED SECRETARY OF THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION IN WASHINGTON, D.C., YOUNG FOUNDED THERE AN ASTROPHYSICAL LABORATORY FOR THE PRIME PURPOSE OF MEASURING THE QUANTITY OF HEAT TRANSMITTED BY THE SUN TO EARTH--FOR WHICH PURPOSE HE INVENTED THE ***BOLOMETER***...

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION--FOUNDED IN 1846--"*FOR THE INCREASE AND DIFFUSION OF KNOWLEDGE AMONG MEN.*"

AMONG HIS EXTRA-SOLAR ACCOMPLISHMENTS WAS HIS NOTABLE DISCOVERY THAT THE DISK OF THE PLANET ***URANUS*** HAS A DECIDED ELLIPTICITY OF ABOUT ONE-TWELFTH...



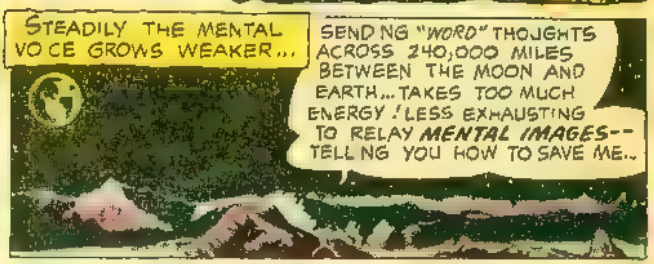
CHARADES on the MOON!

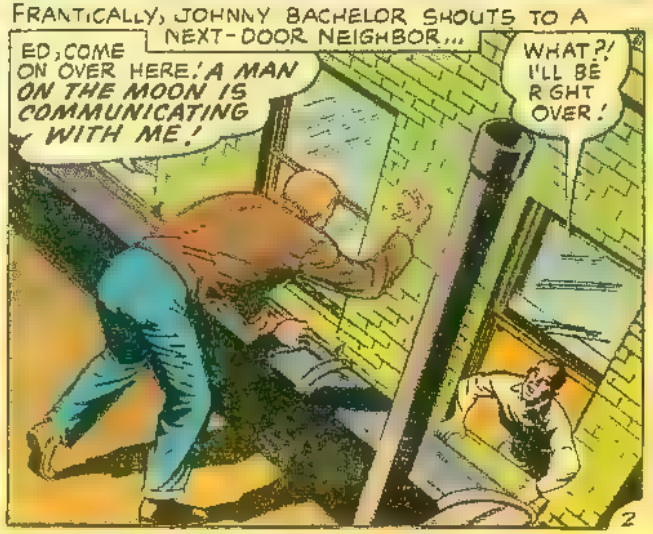
WHEN JOHNNY BACHELOR LOOKED UP AT THE MOON AND SAW SOMEONE THERE WAVING TO HIM, HE WAVED BACK! IN THIS STRANGE WAY BEGAN A FANTASTIC PANTOMIME DRAMA THAT WOULD END WITH LIFE OR DEATH FOR ONE OF THE PLAYERS!
I'VE MADE AN EXPLOSION WITHIN THIS CRATER! WILL THE EARTHMAN UNDERSTAND WHAT I'M REALLY DOING?
ONE EVENING AMATEUR ASTRONOMER JOHNNY BACHELOR FOCUSES HIS LOW POWER TELESCOPE AT THE MOON
IT'S A CLEAR NIGHT! I SHOULD BE ABLE TO SEE SOME OF THE MOON'S CRATERS.
NO TELESCOPE ON EARTH IS POWERFUL ENOUGH TO REVEAL ANY LIFE ON THE MOON--BUT I SEE A HUMAN--WAVING HIS HANDS--AT ME!
I'LL WAVE BACK AND MAKE SURE! YES! HE'S DUPLICATING MY WAVE! HE CAN SEE ME! WAIT. I THINK HE'S TRYING TO COMMUNICATE WITH ME--MENTALLY!

"YES EARTHMAN--YOU ARE RECEIVING MY TELEPATHIC MESSAGES. I COME FROM A DISTANT STAR SYSTEM. A FEW OF YOUR EARTH DAYS AGO, WHILE PASSING THROUGH YOUR SOLAR SYSTEM"
MY ATOMIC ENGINES ARE FAILING! MUST LAND ON THAT SATELLITE AHEAD!

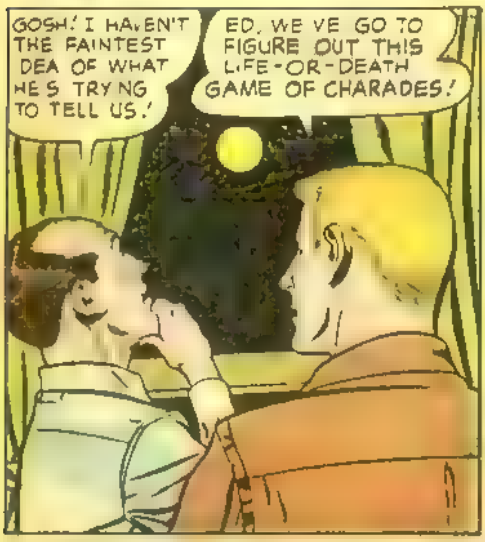
"YOUR PLANET'S MOON IS AIRLESS... FUELESS."
WITHOUT FUEL AND AIR TO BREATHE, I'M DOOMED--UNLESS I CAN GET HELP FROM THAT PLANET--WHICH TELEPATHIC PROBING REVEALS HAS NOT YET ATTAINED SPACE-TRAVEL!

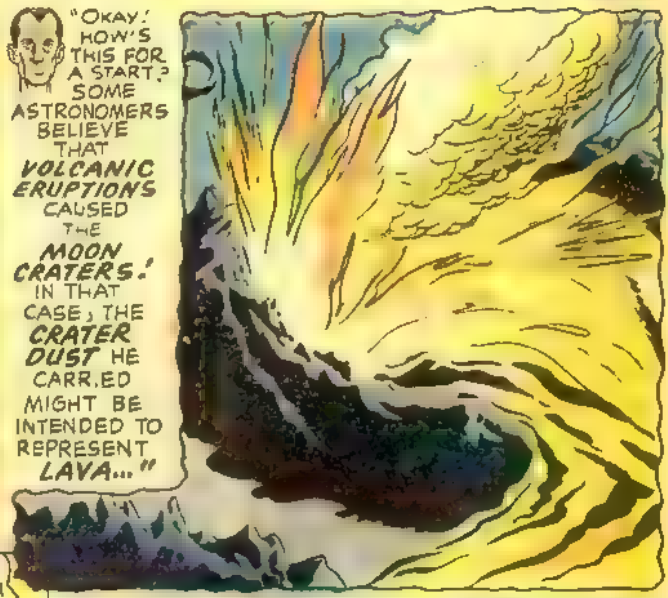
"TELEPATHICALLY, I SEARCHED THE EARTH FOR SOMEONE WITH A SIMILAR MIND PATTERN TO MY OWN! I WAS MENTALLY EXHAUSTED WHEN I FOUND YOU..."
MUST CONTACT EARTHMAN WHILE HE IS USING THAT TELESCOPE--ELSE HE WOULD THINK THE MENTAL MESSAGE AND PICTURES I'M TRANSMITTING TO HIM ARE FIGMENTS OF HIS IMAGINATION!

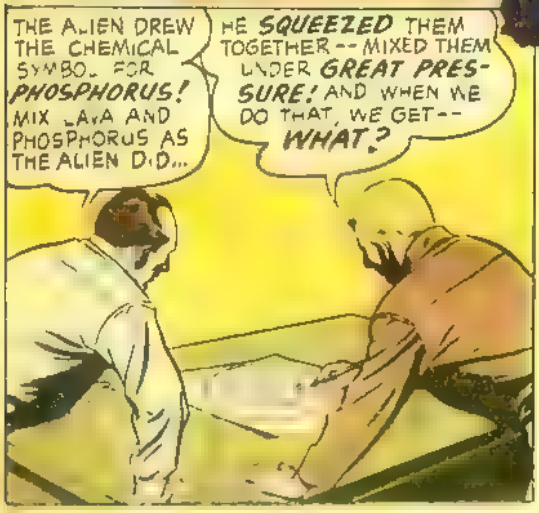

STEADILY THE MENTAL VOICE GROWS WEAKER...
SENDING "WORD" THOUGHTS ACROSS 240,000 MILES BETWEEN THE MOON AND EARTH... TAKES TOO MUCH ENERGY! LESS EXHAUSTING TO RELAY MENTAL IMAGES--TELLING YOU HOW TO SAVE ME..


FRANTICALLY, JOHNNY BACHELOR SHOUTS TO A NEXT-DOOR NEIGHBOR...
ED, COME ON OVER HERE! A MAN ON THE MOON IS COMMUNICATING WITH ME!
WHAT?! I'LL BE RIGHT OVER!

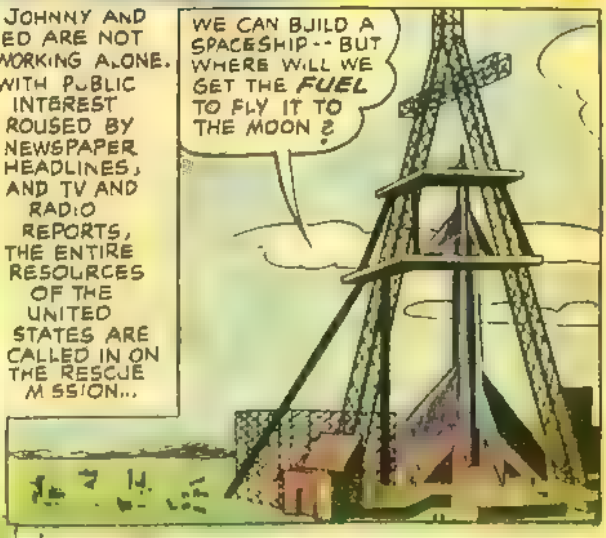
WHEN THE STORY IS EXPLAINED TO PROFESSIONAL ASTRONOMER ED MAYTAG
I'VE GONE OUT ON A LIMB FOR YOU, AND CALLED THE PALOMAR OBSERVATORY! IF YOU'RE KIDDING ME--
I'M NOT! WAIT-- I'M
"THE ALIEN IS APPROACHING A SMALL MOON CRATER, AND DROPPING SOMETHING INTO IT-- THERE'S AN EXPLOSION."
TO SAVE MY LIFE, THE EARTHMAN MUST UNDERSTAND WHAT I AM DOING
"NOW HE IS BENDING, THE MOON DUST EMITTED FROM THE CRATER, AND IS CARRYING IT IN HIS CUPPED
I MUST ACT OUT EACH PHASE OF PLAN
AN EXPLOSION IN A MOON DUST?
I DON'T KNOW-- BUT WE'VE GOT TO GUESS RIGHT OR-- WAIT!
"HE IS DROPPING THE MOON DUST ON THE DIAGRAM-- AND SQUEEZING THE DUST AND THE DIAGRAM TOGETHER!"




"OKAY! HOW'S THIS FOR A START? SOME ASTRONOMERS BELIEVE THAT VOLCANIC ERUPTIONS CAUSED THE MOON CRATERS! IN THAT CASE, THE CRATER DUST HE CARRIED MIGHT BE INTENDED TO REPRESENT LAVA..."

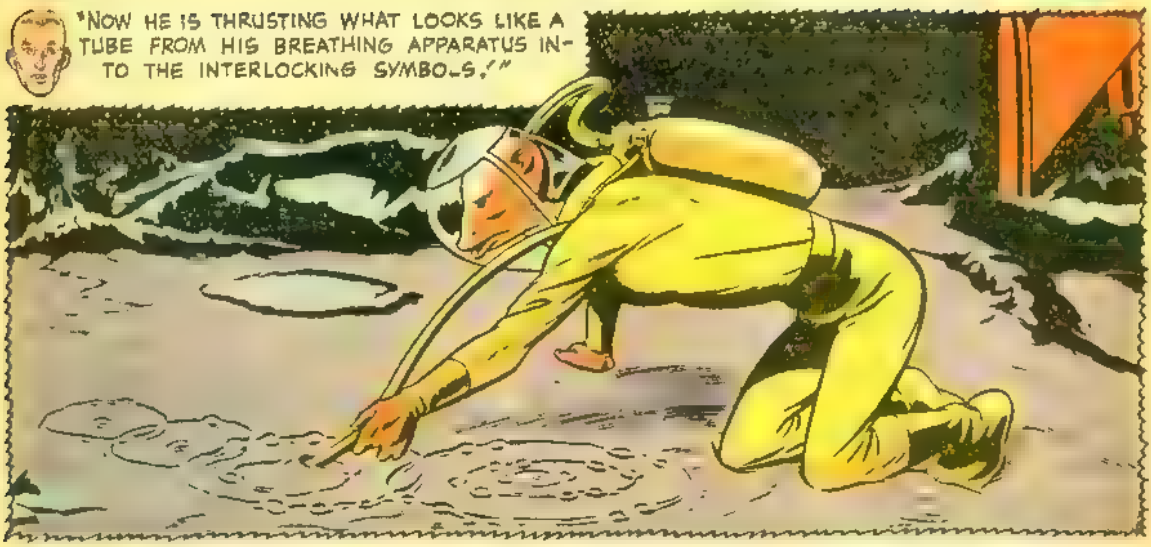

THE ALIEN DREW THE CHEMICAL SYMBOL FOR PHOSPHORUS! MIX LAVA AND PHOSPHORUS AS THE ALIEN DID...
HE SQUEEZED THEM TOGETHER -- MIXED THEM UNDER GREAT PRESSURE! AND WHEN WE DO THAT, WE GET -- WHAT?

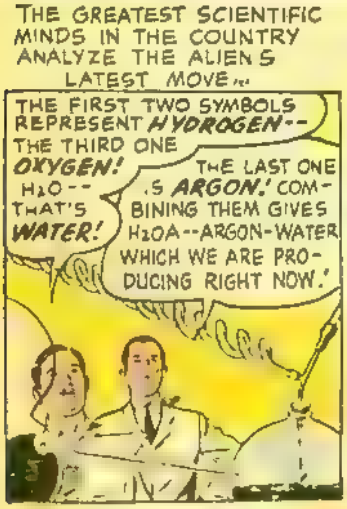
JOHNNY AND ED ARE NOT WORKING ALONE. WITH PUBLIC INTEREST ROUSED BY NEWSPAPER HEADLINES, AND TV AND RADIO REPORTS, THE ENTIRE RESOURCES OF THE UNITED STATES ARE CALLED IN ON THE RESCUE MISSION...

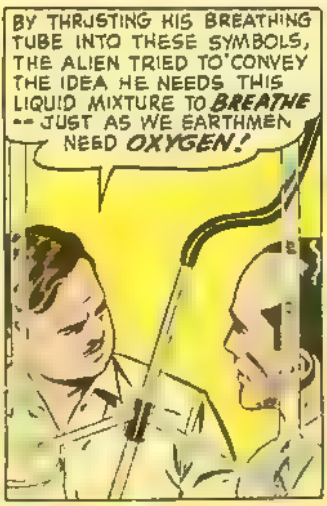


LABORATORIES COMBINE LAVA AND PHOSPHORUS UNDER ENORMOUS PRESSURE...

IN AN ASTRONOMICAL OBSERVATORY, JOHNNY BACHELOR GETS ANOTHER MENTAL PICTURE.

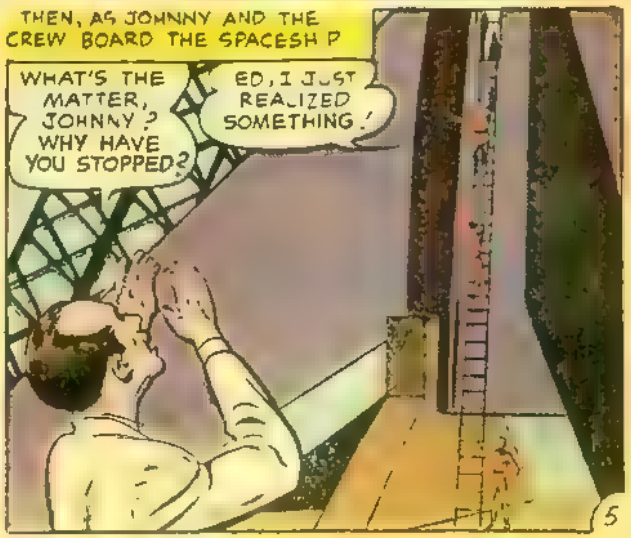

"NOW HE IS THRUSTING WHAT LOOKS LIKE A TUBE FROM HIS BREATHING APPARATUS INTO THE INTERLOCKING SYMBOLS!"

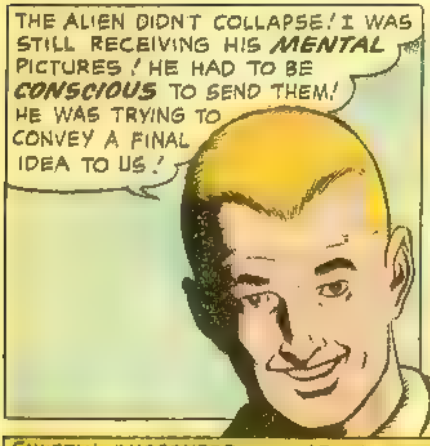

THE GREATEST SCIENTIFIC MINDS IN THE COUNTRY ANALYZE THE ALIEN'S LATEST MOVE...
THE FIRST TWO SYMBOLS REPRESENT HYDROGEN--THE THIRD ONE OXYGEN! H2O--THAT'S WATER!
THE LAST ONE IS ARGON! COMBINING THEM GIVES H2OA--ARGON-WATER WHICH WE ARE PRODUCING RIGHT NOW!

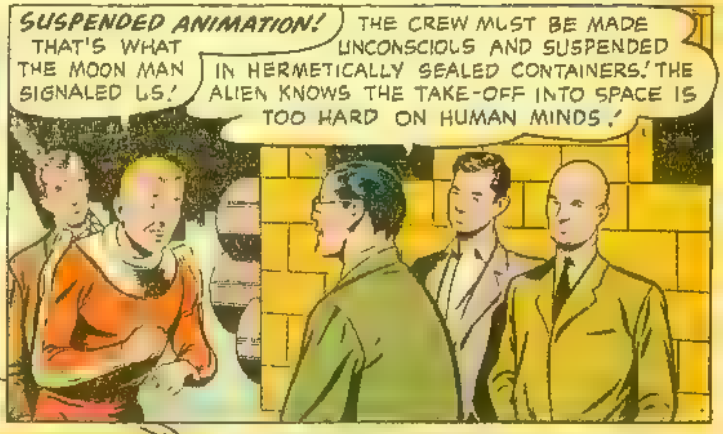

BY THRUSTING HIS BREATHING TUBE INTO THESE SYMBOLS, THE ALIEN TRIED TO CONVEY THE IDEA HE NEEDS THIS LIQUID MIXTURE TO BREATHE--JUST AS WE EARTHMEN NEED OXYGEN!

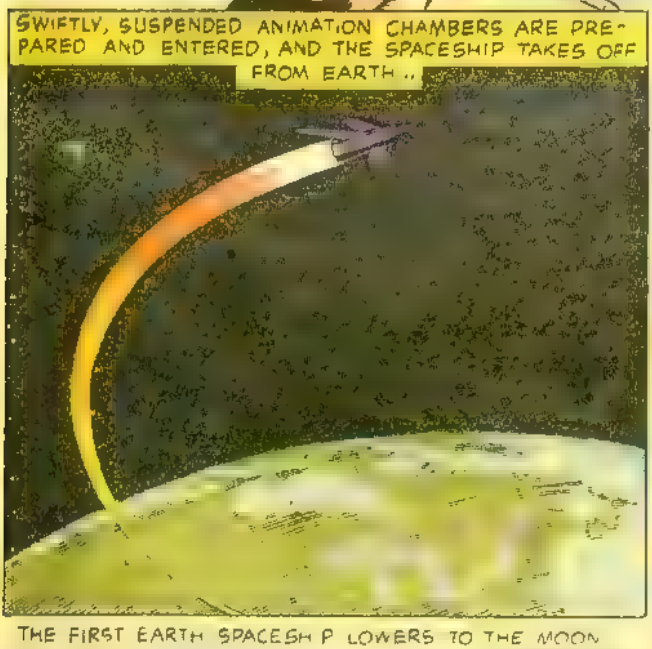
THEN, AS JOHNNY AND A SELECTED CREW PREPARE TO BOARD THE SPACESHIP...
I SEE THE MOON MAN WAVING--NO! HE IS BECKONING TO US... TELLING US TO COME TO THE MOON!

"HE--HE IS FALLING! COLLAPSING! HE IS LYING MOTIONLESS! ARE WE TOO LATE?"

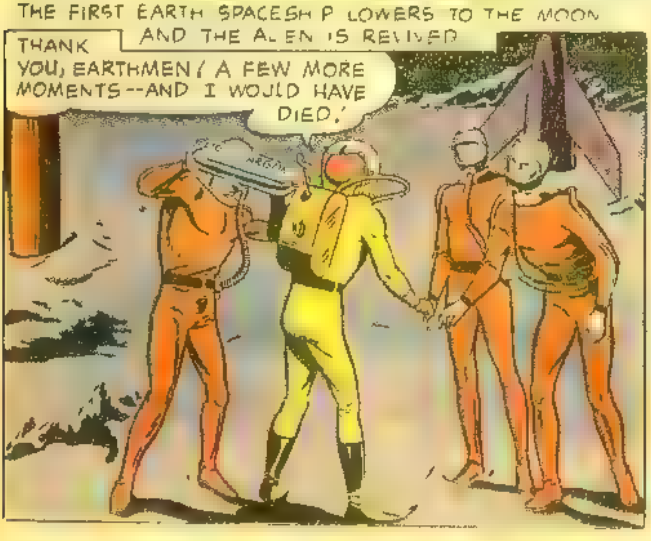

THEN, AS JOHNNY AND THE CREW BOARD THE SPACESHIP
WHAT'S THE MATTER, JOHNNY? WHY HAVE YOU STOPPED?
ED, I JUST REALIZED SOMETHING!

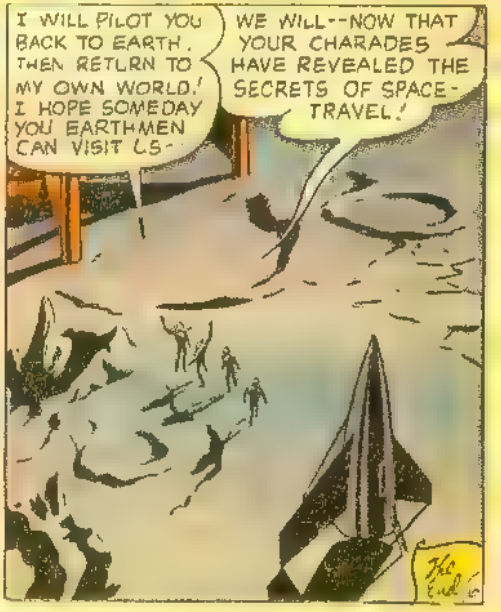

THE ALIEN DIDN'T COLLAPSE! I WAS STILL RECEIVING HIS MENTAL PICTURES! HE HAD TO BE CONSCIOUS TO SEND THEM! HE WAS TRYING TO CONVEY A FINAL IDEA TO US!


SUSPENDED ANIMATION! THAT'S WHAT THE MOON MAN SIGNALED US!
THE CREW MUST BE MADE UNCONSCIOUS AND SUSPENDED IN HERMETICALLY SEALED CONTAINERS! THE ALIEN KNOWS THE TAKE-OFF INTO SPACE IS TOO HARD ON HUMAN MINDS!

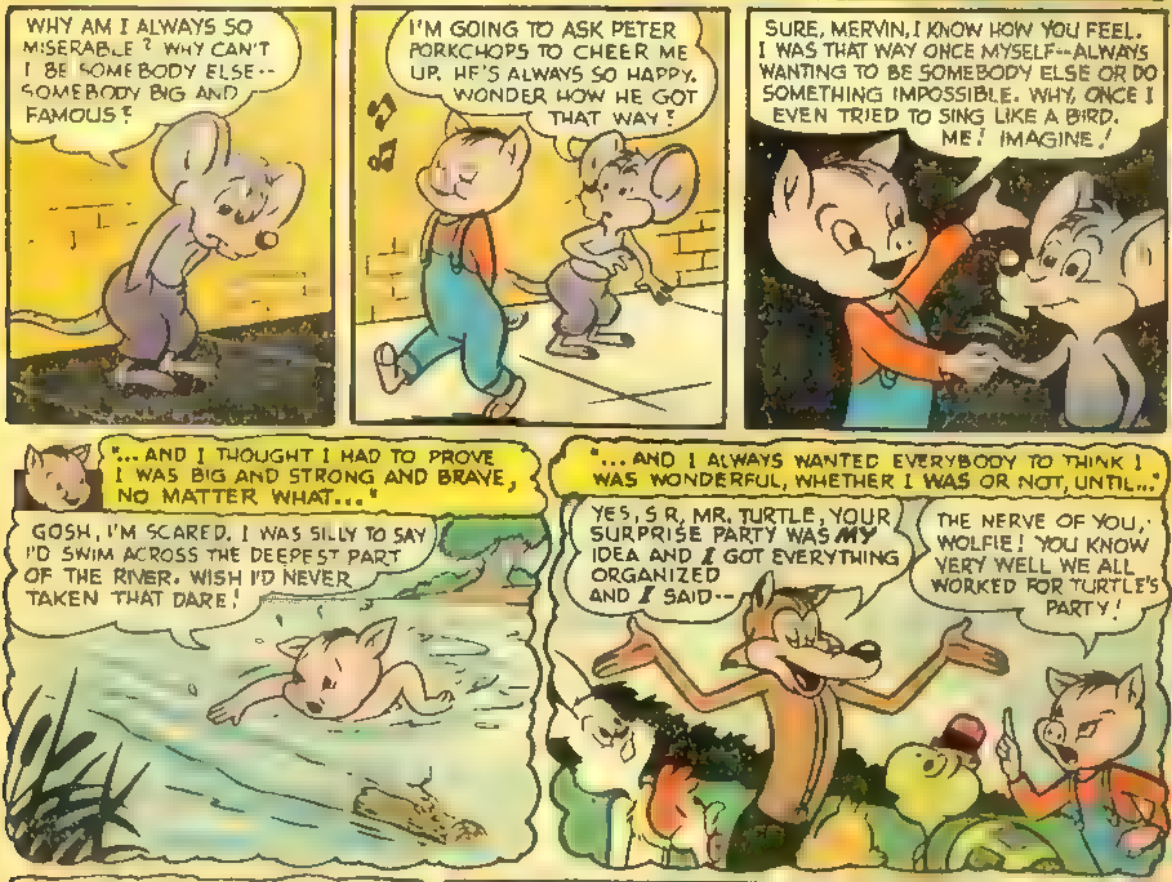

SWIFTLY, SUSPENDED ANIMATION CHAMBERS ARE PREPARED AND ENTERED, AND THE SPACESHIP TAKES OFF FROM EARTH..

FOR TWO HOURS THE SHIP SOARS ACROSS THE VOID! THEN THE AUTOMATIC CONTROLS OF THE SHIP RELEASE THE MEN IN SUSPENDED ANIMATION..
WE'VE ALREADY REACHED THE MOON!
WE WOULD HAVE CRASHED--IF WE HADN'T AWAKENED IN TIME!


THE FIRST EARTH SPACESHIP LOWERS TO THE MOON AND THE ALIEN IS REVIVED
THANK YOU, EARTHMEN! A FEW MORE MOMENTS--AND I WOULD HAVE DIED!


I WILL PILOT YOU BACK TO EARTH. THEN RETURN TO MY OWN WORLD! I HOPE SOMEDAY YOU EARTHMEN CAN VISIT US--
WE WILL--NOW THAT YOUR CHARADES HAVE REVEALED THE SECRETS OF SPACE-TRAVEL!
THE END

PETER PORKCHOPS in "The SECRET of the HAPPY PIG!"


WHY AM I ALWAYS SO MISERABLE? WHY CAN'T I BE SOMEBODY ELSE--SOMEBODY BIG AND FAMOUS?
I'M GOING TO ASK PETER PORKCHOPS TO CHEER ME UP. HE'S ALWAYS SO HAPPY. WONDER HOW HE GOT THAT WAY?
SURE, MERVIN, I KNOW HOW YOU FEEL. I WAS THAT WAY ONCE MYSELF--ALWAYS WANTING TO BE SOMEBODY ELSE OR DO SOMETHING IMPOSSIBLE. WHY, ONCE I EVEN TRIED TO SING LIKE A BIRD. ME! IMAGINE!
"...AND I THOUGHT I HAD TO PROVE I WAS BIG AND STRONG AND BRAVE, NO MATTER WHAT..."
GOSH, I'M SCARED. I WAS SILLY TO SAY I'D SWIM ACROSS THE DEEPEST PART OF THE RIVER. WISH I'D NEVER TAKEN THAT DARE!
"...AND I ALWAYS WANTED EVERYBODY TO THINK I WAS WONDERFUL, WHETHER I WAS OR NOT, UNTIL..."
YES, SIR, MR. TURTLE, YOUR SURPRISE PARTY WAS MY IDEA AND I GOT EVERYTHING ORGANIZED AND I SAID--
THE NERVE OF YOU, WOLFIE! YOU KNOW VERY WELL WE ALL WORKED FOR TURTLE'S PARTY!
YOU KNOW PETER, WE'RE GLAD YOU TOLD WOLFIE OFF. WE HATE TO SAY IT BUT YOU WERE GETTING TO BE JUST LIKE WOLFIE, IN MORE WAYS THAN ONE!
I WAS?
THAT CURED ME! WHO WANTS TO BE UNPOPULAR AND UNHAPPY LIKE WOLFIE? I JUST DECIDED TO BE ME AND DO THE THINGS I CAN DO!
SO THAT'S THE SECRET OF BEING HAPPY! IT SURE SOUNDS GOOD TO ME!

PUBLISHED AS A PUBLIC SERVICE IN COOPERATION WITH THE NATIONAL SOCIAL WELFARE ASSEMBLY (FORMERLY THE FEDERATION FOR NATIONAL HEALTH WELFARE AND RECREATION AGENCIES OF THE U.S.

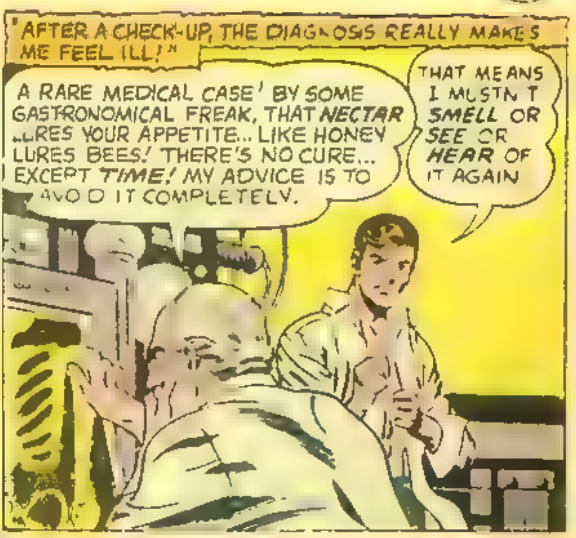
MENACE OF THE SPACE-NECTAR!

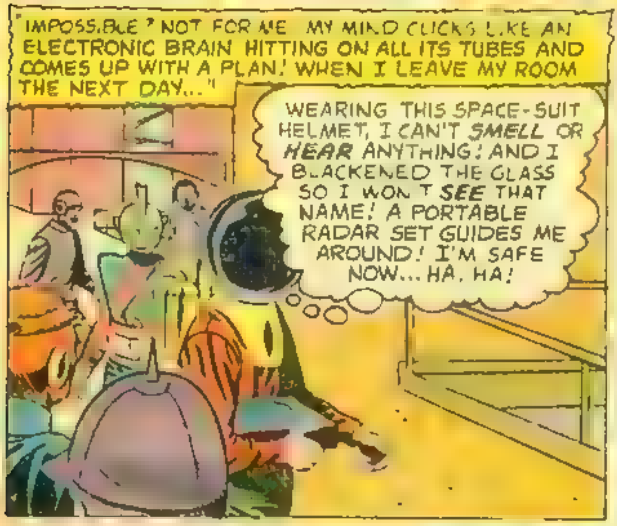
EXCUSE ME...(MUNCH!)...I JUST CAN'T STOP EATING! MY STORY THIS TIME IS ABOUT AN IRRESISTIBLE CRAVING FOR FOOD THAT SUDDENLY OVERWHELMS ME AND NEARLY.. (CHOMP!)...COOKS MY GOOSE! WHEN CROOKS TAKE ADVANTAGE OF MY SUPER-APPETITE TO GET AWAY WITH THEIR LOOT, IT ALMOST LEADS TO MY LAST MEAL...(CHAW!)
ANOTHER ORDER, WAITRESS! KEEP THEM COMING!
THE CABBY'S CRAVING FOR THAT SPACE-NECTAR WILL SOON PUT US IN GRAVY! HA, HA!
SPACE-CAFE--FOOD FROM ALL THE PLANETS!
"ONE DAY ON EARTH, AS I'M CRUISING CITY STREETS IN MY SPACE-CAB..."
TAXI!... SPACE-TAXI!
BUSINESS HAS BEEN TERRIBLE LATELY! I SURE NEED THAT FARE!
SPACE CAFE
"SUDDENLY, SOMETHING WAFTS INTO MY OPEN WINDOW..."
MMMM! WHAT'S THAT DELICIOUS FOOD AROMA I SMELL? MAKES MY MOUTH WATER!

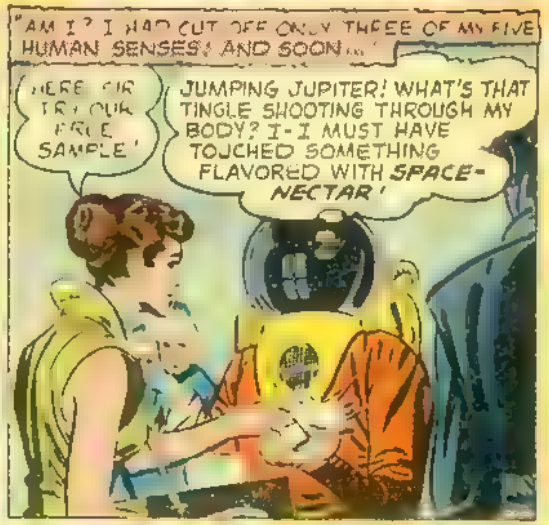
"INSTANTLY I FORGET ALL ABOUT BAD BUSINESS.. THE WAITING FARE...! ONLY ONE THING MATTERS NOW..."
HEY, CABBY! I WANT TO GO--
THE AROMA'S COMING FROM THAT CAFE! I-I CAN'T RESIST GOT TO HAVE SOME OF THAT ENTICING FOOD!
SPACE CAFE
"I DASH INTO THE PLACE LIKE A SPACE-PROSPECTOR FINDING A CRATER FULL OF DIAMONDS PLATED WITH GOLD!"
QUICK! GIVE ME AN ORDER OF YOUR SPACE-SPECIAL! WHAT AN OUT OF THIS WORLD AROMA!
TODAY'S SPECIAL NECTAR SOUP 25¢
IT'S A NEW SEASONING CALLED SPACE-NECTAR! DO YOU LIKE IT, SIR?
LIKE IT? I WOULDN'T TRADE ALL THE CANALS OF MARS FOR THIS! BRING ME MORE... MORE!
"I'M JUST GETTING WARMED UP, READY FOR THE FOURTH BOWL, WHEN I HAVE TO STOP FOR A GOOD REASON..."
I CAN'T PAY FOR ANY MORE! I'LL HAVE TO EARN SOME TAXI MONEY BEFORE I CAN EAT FOOD WITH THAT DELECTABLE FLAVOR AGAIN!
"LUCKILY, I SOON PICK UP SEVERAL FARES! THEN, EN ROUTE TO MARS, A SIGN HITS MY EYE... AND I'M GONE AGAIN..."
YUMM! I DON'T SMELL IT, BUT THE MERE SEEING THE NAME--SPACE-NECTAR--FILLS ME WITH AN IRRESISTIBLE CRAVING FOR IT!
METEOR DINER
HASH SEASONED WITH SPACE-NECTAR
"ELECTRONIC BRAKES SCREAM! I LEAP OUT LIKE A GUIDED-MISSILE HOMING ON ITS TARGET"
CABBY! WHAT DID YOU STOP HERE FOR? I'M IN A HURRY TO REACH SATURN!
SORRY, MISTER-- YOU'LL HAVE TO GRAB ANOTHER CAB! I'M HUNGRY FOR MORE SPACE-NECTAR!
2

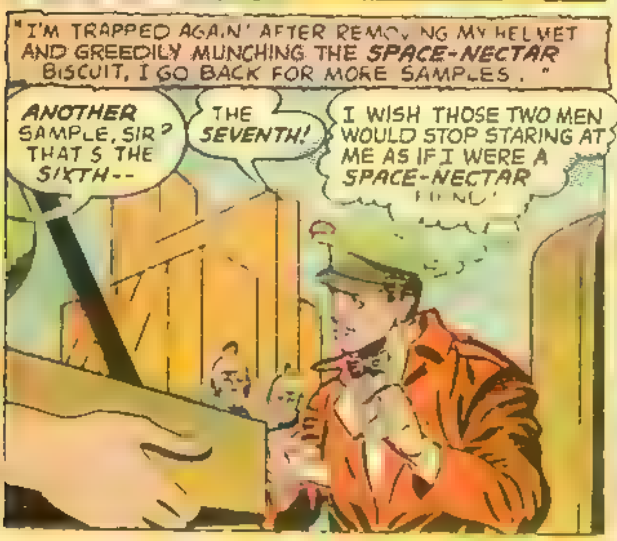
"WHEN I COME OUT, I'M FULL OF FOOD...BUT FULL OF WORRY TOO!"
I LOST ANOTHER FARE AND SPENT ALL MY RECENT EARNINGS! THIS FANTASTIC CRAVING WILL BANKRUPT ME!
"I REALIZE THERE'S ONLY ONE LOGICAL THING TO DO WHEN I PASS NEAR ANY OTHER BILLBOARDS ADVERTISING FOOD..."
IF I DON'T SEE ITS NAME I WON'T GET THE CRAVING FOR IT! PRETTY SMART!
ASTEROID DINER SPACE-NECTAR CUISINE!
"YEAH, I'M AS SMART AS A URANIAN FOX WHOSE BRAIN IS THE SIZE OF A PEANUT. THE NEXT THING I KNOW
HEY, LOOK OUT, CABBY! YOU SIDESWIPED ME! WHAT'S THE MATTER.. ARE YOU BLIND?
ER...IN A WAY ME AND MY 'IDEAS'
"BY LAW, I MUST SIGNAL THE IPPY* AND REPORT THE ACCIDENT!"
ANYWAY IT'S HANDY CALLING THE POLICE! YOU JUST PRESS THIS RED BUTTON AND YOUR RADIO IS AUTOMATICALLY OPEN TO THEIR SPECIAL WAVE-LENGTH!
*EDITOR'S NOTE! FUTURE SLANG FOR INTER-PLANETARY POLICE!
"AFTER THAT TEETH RATTLING ACCIDENT I SEEK RELAXATION AT A DRIVE-IN MOVIE IN SPACE..."
MAYBE IT'LL TAKE MY MIND OFF THOSE CRAVINGS IF I SEE A MOVIE!
"BUT AT INTERMISSION TIME, A COMMERCIAL COMES ON..."
HUNGRY, FOLKS? RUSH TO OUR SPACE-SNACK BAR! EAT YUMMIES, FLAVORED WITH THAT NEW SEASONING SENSATION...SPACE-NECTAR!
GREAT NEBULA! I SMELLED IT...I SAW ITS NAME...NOW HEARING IT MENTIONED FORCES ME TO EAT IT!

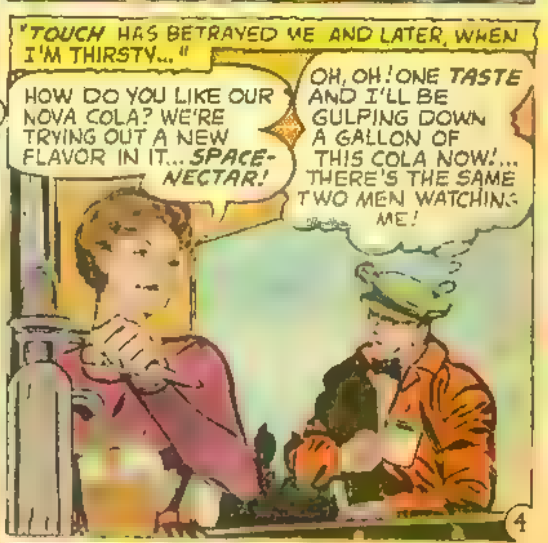
"SOON, I'M AGAIN FILLING MY STOMACH.. AND EMPTYING MY WALLET..."
THIS CAN'T GO ON! I'LL EAT MYSELF INTO THE PLUTO POORHOUSE! I'VE GOT TO SEE A DOCTOR-- MAYBE HE CAN GIVE ME SOMETHING TO KILL MY DESIRE FOR SPACE-NECTAR!
CRACK POPS


"AFTER A CHECK-UP, THE DIAGNOSIS REALLY MAKES ME FEEL ILL!"
A RARE MEDICAL CASE! BY SOME GASTRONOMICAL FREAK, THAT NECTAR LURES YOUR APPETITE... LIKE HONEY LURES BEES! THERE'S NO CURE... EXCEPT TIME! MY ADVICE IS TO AVOID IT COMPLETELY.
THAT MEANS I MUSTN'T SMELL OR SEE OR HEAR OF IT AGAIN


"IMPOSSIBLE! NOT FOR ME! MY MIND CLICKS LIKE AN ELECTRONIC BRAIN HITTING ON ALL ITS TUBES AND COMES UP WITH A PLAN! WHEN I LEAVE MY ROOM THE NEXT DAY..."
WEARING THIS SPACE-SUIT HELMET, I CAN'T SMELL OR HEAR ANYTHING! AND I BLACKENED THE GLASS SO I WON'T SEE THAT NAME! A PORTABLE RADAR SET GUIDES ME AROUND! I'M SAFE NOW... HA, HA!


"AM I? I HAD CUT OFF ONLY THREE OF MY FIVE HUMAN SENSES! AND SOON..."
HERE, SIR, TRY OUR FREE SAMPLE!
JUMPING JUPITER! WHAT'S THAT TINGLE SHOOTING THROUGH MY BODY? I-I MUST HAVE TOUCHED SOMETHING FLAVORED WITH SPACE-NECTAR!


"I'M TRAPPED AGAIN! AFTER REMOVING MY HELMET AND GREEDILY MUNCHING THE SPACE-NECTAR BISCUIT, I GO BACK FOR MORE SAMPLES."
ANOTHER SAMPLE, SIR? THAT'S THE SIXTH--
THE SEVENTH!
I WISH THOSE TWO MEN WOULD STOP STARING AT ME AS IF I WERE A SPACE-NECTAR FIEND!


"TOUCH HAS BETRAYED ME AND LATER, WHEN I'M THIRSTY..."
HOW DO YOU LIKE OUR NOVA COLA? WE'RE TRYING OUT A NEW FLAVOR IN IT... SPACE-NECTAR!
OH, OH! ONE TASTE AND I'LL BE GULPING DOWN A GALLON OF THIS COLA NOW!... THERE'S THE SAME TWO MEN WATCHING ME!

"ODDLY ENOUGH, THE TWO MEN HIRE MY CAB NEXT..."
TO THE ASTEROIDS, CABBY!
WHICH ONE? THERE ARE THOUSANDS OF THEM! DON'T YOU KNOW WHICH ONE YOU WANT?
NO, BUT YOU DO, CABBY!
A GUN! WH--WHAT DO YOU WANT WITH ME?
"I'LL EXPLAIN CABBY! A MONTH AGO, THE THIRD MEMBER OF OUR GANG WAS ON THE LAM, AND HAD TO HIDE SOME LOOT..."
I'LL BURY THE LOOT ON THIS ASTEROID, NEXT TO THIS TREE! ITS FRUIT HAS A SPECIAL TASTE WHICH WILL HELP MARK THE SPOT! THEN I'LL RADIO MY TWO PALS WHERE TO PICK IT UP!
"BUT JUST AS HE LEAVES AND SIGNALS US "
LISTEN CAREFULLY! I BURIED THE SWAG UNDER A TREE WHOSE FRUIT HAS THAT SPACE-NECTAR FLAVOR YOU HEARD ABOUT! THE ASTEROID IS... HOLD ON! AN IPPY SHIP IS AFTER ME!
THEY ARRESTED HIM BEFORE HE COULD TELL US THE NAME OF THE ASTEROID! BUT YOU'LL FIND IT FOR US, CABBY! JUST THINK OF A BIG BOWL OF DELICIOUS SPACE-NECTAR!
DON'T MENTION THAT WORD-- YOU'LL DRIVE ME WILD WITH CRAVING!
"WHICH IS EXACTLY THEIR CUNNING PLAN!"
HOW ABOUT SOME ICE CREAM SMOTHERED IN SPACE-NECTAR SAUCE, CABBY?
THEY'RE DELIBERATELY EGGING ME ON TO FIND THEIR MISSING LOOT! BUT EVEN MY FIVE SENSES WON'T LOCATE ONE LITTLE FRUIT TREE AMONG THOUSANDS OF ASTEROIDS!

BUT WHAT I FORGET IS THAT MYSTERIOUS SIXTH SENSE HUMANS HAVE SOMEHOW THAT LEADS ME LIKE A HOMING PIGEON TO..."
THERE IT IS THE ASTEROID WHERE THAT FRUIT TREE GROWS! SPACE NECTAR LET ME AT IT!
"HELPLESSLY, I STUFF MYSELF WITH THE FRUIT WHILE THE CROOKS GLOAT OVER THEIR CUNNING COUP
YOUR CRAVING FOR SPACE-NECTAR LOCATED THE LOOT CABBY EAT HEARTILY IT MAY BE YOUR LAST MEAL WE'RE TAKING YOUR CAB AND MAROONING YOU HERE
"BUT CABBY! YOU'LL NEVER TIP OFF THE IPPY THAT WE RECOVERED THAT STOLEN LOOT AND MADE A GETAWAY IN A SPACE-TAXI!
THAT'S WHAT THEY THINK THE IPPY WILL NAB THEM IN AN HOUR
"I'M WRONG! THE IPPY NABS THEM IN A HALF-HOUR! AFTER THEY PICK ME UP I RETURN TO EARTH AND
THE REWARD I GOT FOR THEIR CAPTURE WILL MAKE UP FOR ALL THE MONEY I SPENT ON SPACE-NECTAR! I COOKED THEIR GOOSE BEFORE WE REACHED THE ASTEROID...
BY SECRETLY PRESSING THE RED BUTTON AND LEAVING MY CAB RADIO OPEN TO THE IPPY WAVE-LENGTH WHEN THE CROOKS DROVE AWAY IN MY CAB, EVERY WORD THEY SAID WAS HEARD AT POLICE HEADQUARTERS!
"A MOMENT LATER I'M SINKING INTO A DINER, WONDERING IF MY REWARD CREDITS WILL ALSO GO DOWN MY THROAT. BUT THEN
I--I JUST LOST MY CRAVING FOR SPACE-NECTAR AS SUDDENLY AS IT CAME
WAITRESS! ONE ORDER OF HAM AND EGGS EARTH-STYLE!
THE END

WONDERS of SPACE

THE CLOUDS OF MARS

THAT Mars has an atmosphere of sorts has been established by astronomical observation. It has been variously estimated that the Martian atmosphere is somewhere between one-tenth and one-half that of Earth. So far only carbon dioxide has been unmistakably identified—about twice the amount that is present in our atmosphere. There is evidence of water vapor, and most observers agree there is a small amount of oxygen. It is possible that nitrogen is present in the Martian atmosphere, but any of the lighter gases it may have once had—such as hydrogen and helium—has long since escaped into space.

In any event, where there is an atmosphere, there are clouds—of which Mars has an abundant number. The rarest and most conspicuous of these Martian clouds are *white*—comparable to our stratus and cirrostratus clouds—which are concentrated mainly over the red-hued areas of the planet. These whitish clouds have been seen as swarms of roundish, ten-mile wide masses. They assume their shapes within a few hours and last for several days, hovering from five to twenty miles above the surface.

Two to three miles above Martian land appear the mysterious *yellow* or *red* clouds. They occur much more frequently than the white variety and over a more extensive portion of the planet. Lowell Observatory astronomers have suggested that these clouds are in reality *dust* that has been whipped up by the wind from the desert-dry Martian surface.

Other astronomers believe that the material of the red clouds is volcanic dust; pointing out the similar cloud effects from volcanic eruptions that have been observed on Earth. The most generally accepted opinion is that that red clouds are actually white; the redness being the optical result of the reflection of the reddish surface features of Mars; they are simply in the nature of our own fair-weather haze.

Of all the Martian cloud types the most interesting are the so-called *blue* clouds, which range from sixty to one hundred miles above the Martian surface. They are comparable to the rare mother-of-pearl and noctilucen clouds of our atmosphere. According to astronomer Kuiper, this layer of clouds probably consists of minute ice plates, resembling those that have been seen on fine frosty days on the high mountains of Earth.

As is to be expected from their great height, the blue clouds of Mars are very cold. Indeed, when a blue cloud formations crosses over a Martian surface area, a sudden drop in temperature is recorded. Near the Martian Polar Circle the winter temperature at noon is in the neighborhood of —20°C; when blue clouds hide this area, the temperature dips to —40°C.

Both the blue clouds and the low-lying mists thicken at nightfall, partly to disperse again at sunrise. Astronomers see evidence in this of the "greenhouse effect." Not only are the night temperatures on Mars atmospheric, but with the coming of darkness the planet develops a remarkably effective blanket which guards it against loss of heat into space during the hours without sunshine.

One final note about the clouds of Mars. General interest was aroused in 1951 by an unusual observation made by a Japanese astronomer. On December 8th he observed a small starlike spot over an area near the South Pole. During the first few minutes it increased in brilliancy and became larger, finally fading out after an hour's duration. The world's newspapers offered some interesting speculations to account for the unusual occurrence. One reputable paper seriously suggested that Martians were trying to communicate with us by means of flashing mirrors; a second considered it possible that an atomic bomb had exploded; another that the glow was the result of a gigantic meteor crashing onto Mars. However, the most reasonable explanation is that the phenomenon was nothing more than the formation of an unusually bright cloud.

PLANET of DOOMED EARTHMEN!

FOLLOWING THE WARM MARTIAN WELCOME GIVEN THE FIRST EARTH-TO-MARS EXPEDITION A SECOND EXPEDITION BLASTED OFF FOR THE RED PLANET! BUT WHEN THE *STARFIRE II* PUT ITS LANDING VANES DOWN ON MARTIAN SOIL, THE SPACEMEN DISCOVERED TO THEIR AMAZEMENT THAT THEY WERE THE *FIRST* EARTHMEN TO VISIT MARS!

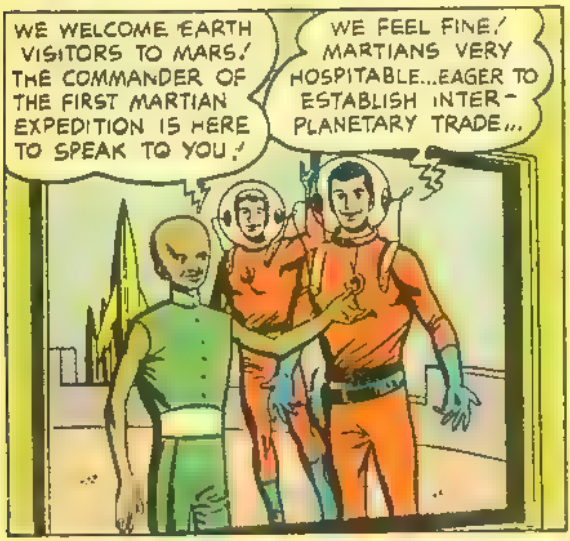
WE *KNOW* THE OTHER EARTHMEN HAVE BEEN ON MARS BEFORE US! WE SAW THEM ON INTERPLANETARY TELEVISION--SPOKE TO THEM--

THERE MUST BE SOME MISTAKE! *YOU* ARE THE *FIRST* EARTHMEN WE HAVE SEEN

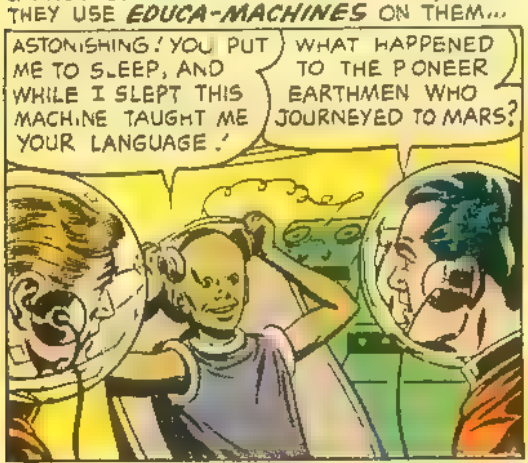
STARFIRE 2

ON THE HISTORY-MAKING DAY OF JUNE 8, 1973, TELEVISION RECEIVERS ALL OVER EARTH RECEIVE THE FIRST COMMUNICATION FROM ANOTHER WORLD...

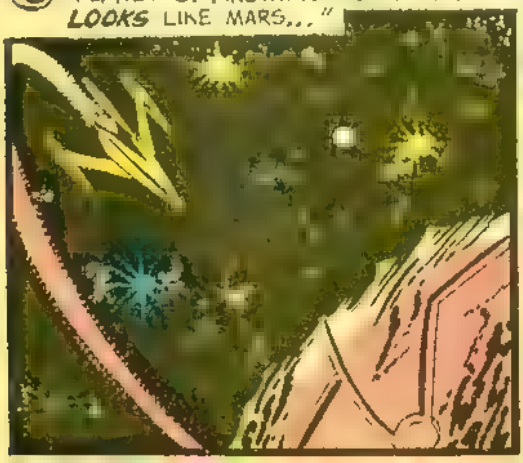
MARS CALLING EARTH! COME IN, EARTH, IF YOU CAN SEE OR HEAR US!


WE WELCOME EARTH VISITORS TO MARS! THE COMMANDER OF THE FIRST MARTIAN EXPEDITION IS HERE TO SPEAK TO YOU!
WE FEEL FINE! MARTIANS VERY HOSPITABLE...EAGER TO ESTABLISH INTER-PLANETARY TRADE...

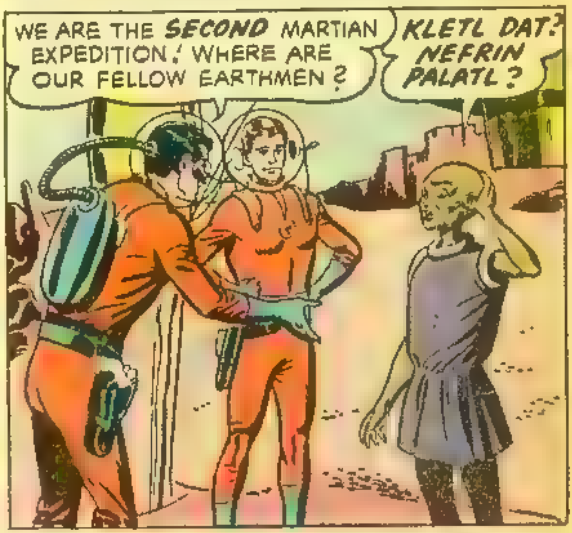
THE EARTHMEN ARE AMAZED TO DISCOVER MARTIANS CANNOT UNDERSTAND THEIR LANGUAGE, UNTIL THEY USE ***EDUCA-MACHINES*** ON THEM...

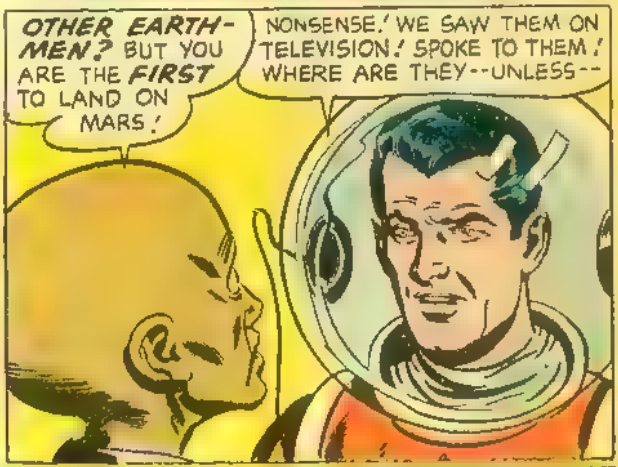

ASTONISHING! YOU PUT ME TO SLEEP, AND WHILE I SLEPT THIS MACHINE TAUGHT ME YOUR LANGUAGE!
WHAT HAPPENED TO THE PIONEER EARTHMEN WHO JOURNEYED TO MARS?

"--THEY PASSED THROUGH A ***SPACE-WARP*** AND ARRIVED ON A DISTANT PLANET OF ANOTHER SYSTEM THAT ***LOOKS*** LIKE MARS..."

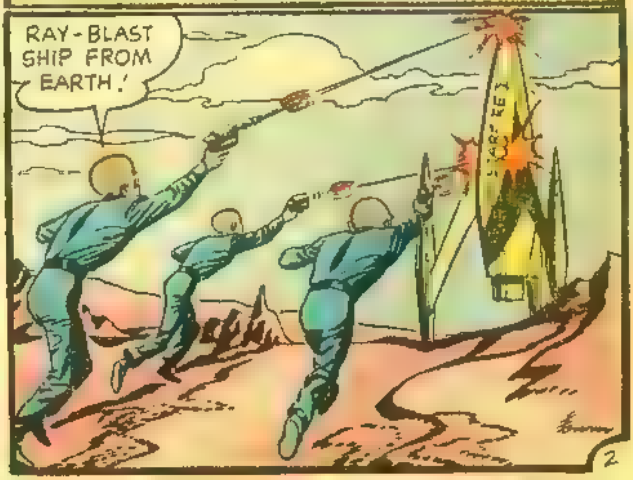


WITHIN A MONTH, ***STARFIRE II*** IS BUILT AND BLASTED MARSWARD! BUT WHEN IT LANDS...

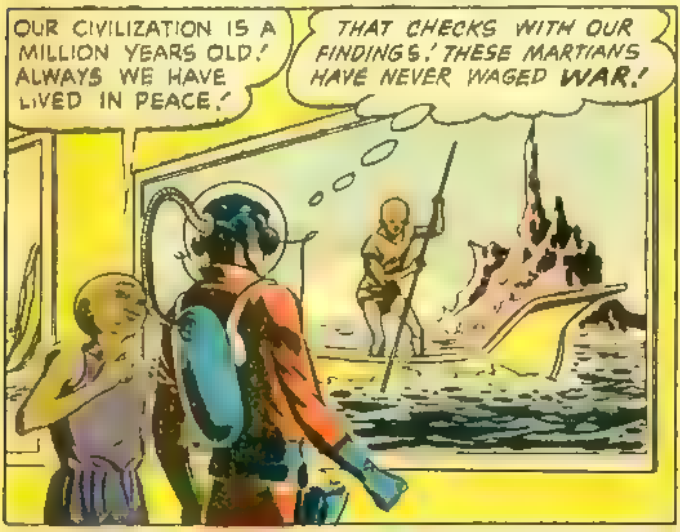



OTHER EARTHMEN? BUT YOU ARE THE ***FIRST*** TO LAND ON MARS!
NONSENSE! WE SAW THEM ON TELEVISION! SPOKE TO THEM! WHERE ARE THEY--UNLESS--

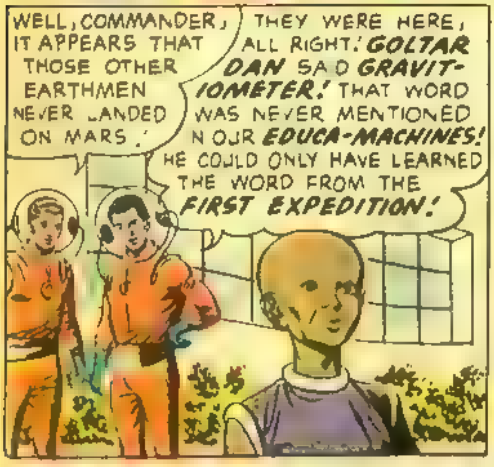
"OR--PERHAPS, THE MARTIANS ATTACKED AND DESTROYED THEM, FOR SOME REASON!"



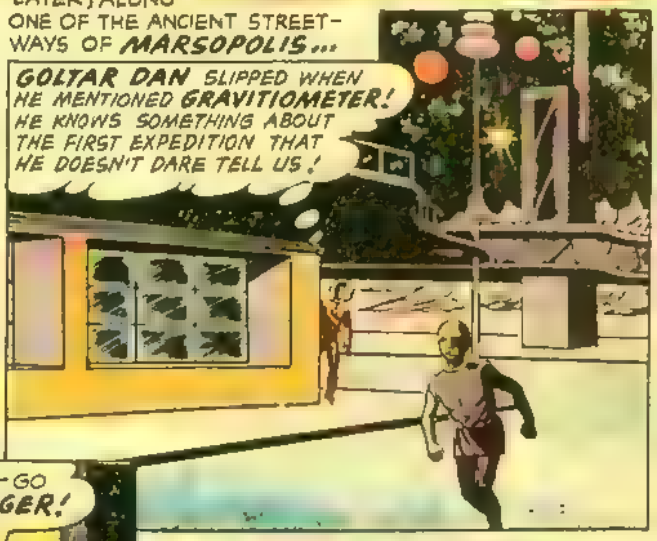
BUT WHEN THE EARTHMEN CLOSELY QUESTION THE MARTIANS, THEIR SUSPICION IS ALLAYED...


OUR CIVILIZATION IS A MILLION YEARS OLD! ALWAYS WE HAVE LIVED IN PEACE!
THAT CHECKS WITH OUR FINDINGS! THESE MARTIANS HAVE NEVER WAGED WAR!

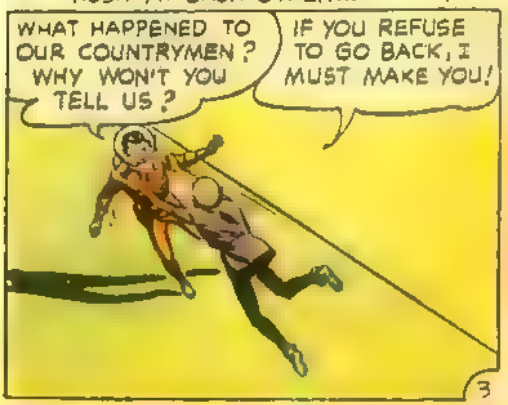
OUR SCIENTIFIC WISDOM IS GREAT, BUT EVOLVED IN A DIFFERENT WAY THAN YOURS! WE HAVE NO WEAPONS, NO SPACE-SHIPS, NO GRAVITIO-METERS, NO RADAR!
YOUR PEOPLE ARE CREATIVE ARTISTS, GOLTAR DAN!


WELL, COMMANDER, IT APPEARS THAT THOSE OTHER EARTHMEN NEVER LANDED ON MARS!
THEY WERE HERE, ALL RIGHT! GOLTAR DAN SAID GRAVITIOMETER! THAT WORD WAS NEVER MENTIONED IN OUR EDUCA-MACHINES! HE COULD ONLY HAVE LEARNED THE WORD FROM THE FIRST EXPEDITION!

LATER, ALONG ONE OF THE ANCIENT STREETWAYS OF MARSOPOLIS...


GOLTAR DAN SLIPPED WHEN HE MENTIONED GRAVITIOMETER! HE KNOWS SOMETHING ABOUT THE FIRST EXPEDITION THAT HE DOESN'T DARE TELL US!

AS THE MARTIAN AND EARTHMAN RUSH AT EACH OTHER...



UNFAMILIAR WITH FIGHTING, THE MARTIAN PROVES POOR OPPOSITION TO THE HUSKY EARTHMAN...

NOW I'LL SOLVE THIS MYSTERY FOR MYSELF.!

THEN AS COMMANDER KNIGHT OPENS THE REAR DOOR AND STEPS INTO A STRANGE ROOM...

AN EARTHMAN! HE'S COME TO SAVE US FROM THE MARTIANS!

HELP! MARTIANS GOING TO KILL US!

THEY RAIDED US WASHED AND STOLE OUR EQUIP-MENT

THE WORD HARDEST TO MAKE THEM UNDERSTAND WAS "WAR"! HOW COULD THEY HAVE DONE WHAT YOU SAY?

SAVE US. SAVE US.

SUDDENLY THE DOOR OPENS

YOUR COUNTRYMEN ARE DELIRIOUS, COMMANDER! AFTER THEY SPOKE TO EARTH THEY BECAME INFECTED BY A VIRUS TO WHICH WE MARTIANS ARE IMMUNE! WE HID THE EARTHMEN, FEARING YOU'D BELIEVE THEIR DELUSION THAT WE ATTACKED THEM -- AND ATTACK US IN RETURN!

AGES AGO, MY PEOPLE SUFFERED FROM THIS VIRUS, TOO! TO GAIN IMMUNITY, ONE MUST TAKE THE ANTIDOTE PRESENT IN THE BLOOD OF AN ANIMAL CALLED A *PTERILAX*!

WELL, WHAT'S THE PROBLEM? WE CAN CAPTURE SOME *PTERILAXES* AND

IT WAS NOT THAT SIMPLE IN ANCIENT TIMES WHEN *PTERILAXES* INHABITED THE TROPICS, THEY WERE EASILY CAPTURED

"SINCE THOSE DAYS, *PTERILAXES* HAVE EVOLVED INTO FANTASTICALLY FAST, STRONG ANIMALS IN THEIR NEW HABITAT AT THE NORTH POLAR CAP! HAVING GROWN WHITE FUR, THEY ARE DIFFICULT TO SEE AGAINST THE SNOW..."

TAKING OFF FROM *MARSOPOLIS*, COMMANDER KNIGHT PILOTS THE *STARFIRE II* OVER THE NORTH POLAR CAP, WHERE...

BY SPRAYING RED PAINT ON THE SNOW, WE'LL BE ABLE TO SPOT A *PTERILAX* FASTER!

BUT COMMANDER --WE'RE PAINTING THE ANIMAL *RED*, TOO! HOW--

BUT THE EARTH COMMANDER HAS FORESEEN THIS DIFFICULTY...

THE RED-PAINTED CREATURES APPEAR CLEARLY AGAINST THE WHITE SNOW WHEN THEY MOVE *OUT OF* THE RED SNOW AREA--THE UNSPRAYED ONES SHOW UP WHEN THEY MOVE INTO THE RED AREA!

THERE'S ONE! FULL SPEED AHEAD!

RACING THROUGH THE THIN MARTIAN ATMOSPHERE, THE *STAREFIRE II* OVERTAKES ITS PREY...

THERE GOES THE NET!

AS IF THE NET WERE MADE OF WET PAPER, THE POWERFUL *PTERILAX* BLASTS ITS WAY THROUGH THE STEEL CABLE CORDINGS...

IN ANOTHER ATTEMPT TO TRAP THE ELUSIVE CREATURE, A GREAT HOLE IS DUG, AND COVERED WITH TARPAULINS AND SNOW--INTO WHICH THE *PTERILAX* FALLS...

BUT SO FAST ARE ITS REACTIONS THAT IT TUNNELS A PATH TO FREEDOM INSTANTLY...

THERE IT GOES--FREE AGAIN! WE DARE NOT USE ELECTRICITY OR RAYGUNS--FOR FEAR OF HARMING THE ANTIDOTE TO THAT VIRUS DISEASE!

NEXT, A GIGANTIC STAKE CORRAL IS PREPARED, INTO WHICH THE PTERILAX IS DRIVEN..
WE MUST CAPTURE IT--OR SUFFER THE SAME FATE AS THE FIRST COLONISTS!
...BUT WITH A SOARING LEAP, IT RISES HIGH ABOVE THE STAKES TO FREEDOM!
WE HAVE ONLY ONE DAY LEFT--BEFORE WE CATCH THE VIRUS, TOO!
WE'VE TRIED EVERY BIG-GAME MANEUVER KNOWN! IF THAT THING HAS A WEAKNESS, I DON'T KNOW WHAT IT IS! WE DAREN'T USE HEAT OR...
WAIT A MINUTE! HEAT! WHEN THE PTERILAX ORGINALLY LIVED IN THE TROPICS IT COULD EASILY BE CAUGHT! MAYBE THAT'S WHY IT MIGRATED TO THE POLAR CAPS--BECAUSE HEAT IS ITS WEAKNESS!
WORKING AGAINST TIME AND THE MARTIAN VIRUS, THE EARTHMEN SET UP A GIGANTIC SUN MIRROR...
WE'LL TRAIN THE MAGNIFIED HEAT OF THE SUN ACROSS THIS POLAR CAP! THE TEMPERATURE WILL RISE...
THE INTENSE HEAT MAKES THE PTERILAX LETHARGIC... AND IT FALLS AN EASY VICTIM TO EARTH LARIATS..
KEEP ROUNDING 'EM UP TILL WE HAVE ENOJGH ANTIDOTE TO SAVE EVERYONE!
LATER, AFTER THE ANTIDOTE HAS BEEN APPLIED..
BY CHEMICAL ANALYSIS, WE CAN DUPLICATE THE ANTIDOTE! EARTHMEN ON MARS WILL BE FOREVER SAFE FROM THE VIRUS!
AND OUR PLANETS WILL LIVE IN ETERNAL PEACE AND FRIENDSHIP!
The END

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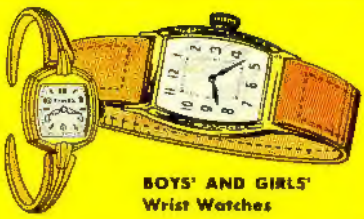

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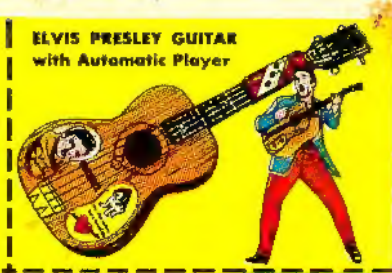

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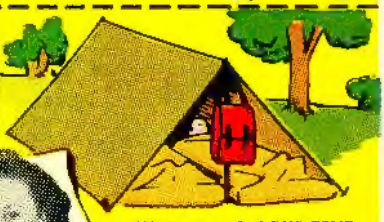

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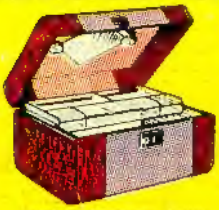

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